(a) whether it is a fact that several new facilities have been provided at some of the metro airports last year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these facilities were dedicated to the public within the prescribed schedule of time;

(c) the amount spent on the publicity and accommodation for the VIPs who participated in these programmes; and

(d) the ratio of this expenditure as compared to the expenses incurred on the renovation of services in the aviation sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No public expenditure was incurred for dedicating these facilities.

(d) Does not arise.

Airports managed by AAI

279. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of airports managed by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) at present;

(b) the number of airports which are operational;

(c) the number of airports which earned profit and made losses during each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve the performance of loss making airports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) There are 125 airports in the country including Civil Enclaves at Defence Airports managed by Airports Authority of India (AAI).

(b) 86 airports are operational.

(c) Out of 125 airports & civil enclaves managed by AAI, the number of profit making airports during last three years are 13 (2005-06), 14 (2006-07) and 15 (2007-08).

(d) The airports are being upgraded to accommodate large type of aircrafts and airlines are requested to make use the additional facilities provided. This will improve the realization of more revenue to AAI. AAI is also making efforts to increase the non-traffic revenues at airports by better exploitation of the commercial opportunities.

Charging of development fee by DIAL

280. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi International Airport Ltd. (DIAL) has levied passengers with the development fee on both domestic and international routes;

(b) if so, the reasons for charging this fee from the passengers for services that are not available;